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GH TREBARWITH

A CORNISH ROMANCE

EDWARD FOSKETT



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HUGH TREBARWITH

ву

EDWARD FOSKETT

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AS THE VESSEL NEARED THE BAY.

HUGH TREBARWITH

A CORNISH ROMANCE

BY

EDWARD FOSKETT

AUTHOR OF "THE WINDOW IN THE ROCK" ETC.

ILLUSTRATED

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HUGH TREBARWITH.

- HUGH TREBARWITH, rough and fearless, known for many a deed well done,
- Looked to landward all enraptured, sailing with the setting sun.
- Looked he long with eyes of wonder, for the beauty was sublime
- As eternal sunset resting on the sea and rocks of time.
- *** The scene of the incidents recorded in the poem is Trebarwith Strand, near Tintagel.

- Harmony of sound and colour, breathing, blending land and sea,
- Speaking in soft murmurs, waking thoughts of silent melody;
- Like sweet peace with radiant mantle floating on the emerald waves,
- And as power in whispered echoes coming from the hidden caves:
- As a vision of the Mighty, as the Mighty's mystic plan,
- Half concealing, half revealing, Nature's horoscope to man.
- While the spell was yet upon him, one said, "Yon's Trebarwith Strand!"
- And he answered, "Yes, by heaven! and I'm near a mind to land."

- "Better make Boscastle harbour or just round Tintagel's head,"
- So the mate replied, but vainly: "In that cove I'll land!" he said.
- "Well I know it! If I told you it would seem a fairy tale;
- Curse it! why should I remember I was born up that fair vale?
- "Yes, Trebarwith!—I'm Trebarwith—since I left thy rocky strand
- Full ten years have whistled by me, and I have the will to land:
- "Though I vowed no more to see thee when my heart-sick mother died,
- Still I'll do it! Shorten sail then, for we catch the flowing tide.

- "Name? I say my name's Trebarwith! Not my mother's that I own;
- Not my father's! Once I swore to raze the record from his stone.
- "Dead he is, my mother told me, but his name she would not tell,
- For, when I had forced her story, hate seethed in my heart like hell.
- "She forgave him, loved him, praying I might bless his wrong in me;
- He had told her once to ask this 'ere he crossed death's darkened sea.
- "That he loved me, saw me, cherished for five years my little life,
- Called me son. I hurled the answer, 'But he dared not call thee wife!'

- "How she blanched, her dark eyes flashing, but to this no words would come,
- In his fault she stood beside him, and before me she was dumb:
- "Not with look of abject weakness, nor with brazen glance of scorn,
- But with introspective grandeur of a deeper thought new-born.
- "When at length my sting-word left her, and recoiling probed in me—
- 'Read,' she said, with look beseeching, 'written word from him to thee.'
- "It was all a man could tell me; it was all a man could do;
- But he signed no name save 'Father,' though he called me his son Hugh.

- "I was then a stalwart stripling, tingling with a pride called shame:
- Wrote he, 'Love your mother; tell her you forgive and take my name.
- "'Then as heir to my estate, and as my son be henceforth known;
- Do it—bless me! Spurn it—curse me! Bless me, that I may atone.'
- "But his message— Stay, the Otter!* I've seen billows cap its crest.
- Bah, we'll land her, there's no hurry, trust this bird to find its nest.

^{*} The Otterham rock, frequently called the Gull rock, is nearly a mile from the shore at the southern end of the bay, rising 133 ft. above high water-mark.

- "Yes, his message—fatal letter—stirred a hurricane within,
- Followed by a sudden calmness worse than passion's noisy din.
- "For three days I kept the letter, for three nights it lay with me,
- Then I tore it, and the east wind laughed each fragment to the sea.
- "My resolve was made! I would not take his name, his land, his gold;
- Shame-born was I? with some honour neither to be bought nor sold.
- "His name? why the thought created fiendish thoughts, like some dread fate,
- Stirring all the fumes of passion in the caldron of my hate.

- "Not by such ignoble truckling would I yield to one so base,
- I was henceforth Hugh Trebarwith, since it was my native place.
- "Be you silent!' cried my mother: 'It was nobler thus to write
- Than to cast a father's message out into the outer night!'
- "There was anger, love, and terror, as she looked me in the eyes—
- 'He was nobler than his son is, if his son his love defies!'
- "I defied it!—wrath in madness—madness close akin to bliss;
- Love for her whose very sweetness cast me in despair's abyss.

- "For my dreams had shaped like granite, nurtured by her pure bright mind;
- But my boyish hopes then vanished—dark before and black behind.
- "Pause I give to thoughts too tragic! There are scenes we store within
- Which no painter puts on canvas—thoughts that shame and silence sin.
- "Only this remains—a rock-fact of a surging year, which led
- To the silent goal of all things, when I looked upon her dead:
- "This—before her last faint heart-throb—'Take my hand, dear Hugh, my child;
- I shall leave you lonely, lonely; but we two are reconciled:

- "" We two! but there is another!"—and I turned my face away—
- 'Ah, I see beyond your seeing; you'll forgive someday, someday!'

* * * * * *

- "Haul the jib down! I spoke freely—thoughtless while the thought was new;
- But betrayed, why man, I'd quickly square a black account with you.
- "Pardon, pardon, I withdraw it! If I saved thy life 'tis thine;
- But I know from head to heart's core in true comradeship 'tis mine."

On my barque, and woo the shore!

Speed, my ocean treasure!

Now the surges roll no more

Give a dancing measure:

Heave O, on we go! Sing, for life is jolly,

None so true, come weal or woe, as our sweetheart Polly.

Whether skies are foul or fair,
She smiles—she is sweetest;
Whether winds blow soft or fierce,
She rides—she is fleetest:
Heave O, on we go! Sing, for life is jolly,
Sound of limb, all taut and trim, is our sweetheart Polly.

Where's the lass like her on land,
Winsome, strong, yet tender;
Find her mate and there's my hand,
For I'd make surrender:
Heave O, on we go! Sing, for life is jolly,
There's no lass in all the world like our sea-bride Polly.

- Every height was smiling welcome! Islets flashed their richest glow,
- Amber clouds enfringed with purple spread translucent light below.
- Stern Tintagel, like a sentry, seemed to say that all was well;
- From Trevena's lonely church-tower came a message from the bell.
- When he heard it last 'twas tolling for the dead—his eyes grew dim—
- For the dead whose only earth-pang was one sorrow left with him.
- Hugh in silence watched the sunset as the vessel neared the bay,
- Though the mate appealed, his head bowed and he had no word to say.



STERN TINTAGEL, LIKE A SENTRY, SEEMED TO SAY THAT ALL WAS WELL.



- Suddenly he scanned the waters, where they broke along the strand,
- From Penallick's point to Denny's, and he saw the place to land.
- "Launch the Dart! Let go the anchor!"

 There was fierceness in his tone;
- But the mate knew why, and answered, "Then you go ashore alone?"
- "Right!" he said,—"I'd rather swim it—I shall stay there for awhile,
- You can wait or make Port Isaac if a livelier breeze should smile."
- "Ay, ay, Padstow if it freshens; there's a stiff one coming soon;
- I will drink a bumper to you 'neath the lamplight of the moon."

- So his oars dipped, and his strong stroke smoothly, swiftly, ploughed the deep,
- To the music and the cadence of the waves when half asleep.
- Not a man was there to aid him, nor a boy to haul a rope;
- Not a —— there intently gazing was a maid as bright as hope.
- In his dreams he had not fashioned one as fair in form as this—
- Spring with promise of a Summer wooing every zephyr's kiss.
- He of men was like a headland, as a magnet to the eye,
- And she felt a thrill which startled into life a half-breathed sigh.

Suddenly in the horizon uprose clouds that haste the night,

Marshalling their swift battalions after calm for ruthless fight:

Dead winds burst the bonds that held them!

Rocks frowned black or sombre grey,

And he looked in vain—the maiden as the light had fled away.

Night steals on with step magnetic,

And a silence half prophetic

Calls to rest!

Hear, O man, the voice that speaketh,

There is peace for him who seeketh

Its behest:

Tumult like an angry billow

May be soothed on night's soft pillow-

Sleep is best!

Woman, weary, heavy laden,

Merry lad and blithesome maiden,

Take your rest!

Let the passions in their fleetness

Pause awhile and gather sweetness

Unexpressed!

Stifle folly, curtain sorrow,

Pray to Him who rules the morrow—

Sleep is best!

Sunrise like a fiery beacon flamed upon the eastern hill;

Storm had swept along the valley, but the storm in Hugh was still.

Not a sound had touched his ear-chords; he slept as a boy once more;

Roamed he o'er the hills of dreamland, free as in the days of yore:

- Swift the years passed! Scenes re-acted in his brain asserted sway,
- And, awaking, something tranquil glowed within to greet the day.
- His good ship had left the channel—"Ah," he said, "a stiffish gale!"
- And he wandered without purpose up and down his native vale.
- "Stormy morning, Master Roger!" "Mornin'; yes sir, that it be!"
- And old Roger looked a question, so Hugh answered smilingly—
- "One who knew you well described you—told me I should see you here,
- King of Sand! and he a sandboy sent you this for hearty cheer."

- "Thank'ee sir! and you may reckon if you want me I am spry";
- Hugh laughed, "Yes, and I'll remember!" and he passed with twinkling eye.
- "He's the one I feared would know me; but to fifteen years add ten,
- Would a mother know her laddie? Mine—ah mine!—the now and then."
- Later, he could ne'er remember how or why, his footsteps trod
- On the turf of lone Trevena silent as the hush of God:
- To the spot, he oft had seen it when the shadows brought it near,
- Where the simple rock-hewn headstone spoke to him: hark, was it fear?



 $\label{eq:Lone Trevena} Lone \ Trevena,$ Silent as the hush of God.



- Yet he heard—it seemed a rustle—and he saw a form glide by;
- "Bah," he said, "a trick of twilight—an illusion of the eye."
- Brain or eye it mattered little; on the stone he bowed his head,
- Wrestled with his own grim phantom, communed with the living dead.

In the realm of twilight-silence
Echoes penetrate the ear,
And mysterious links of nature
Bring a dead existence near;
Then we dream about the Future
From the Present's narrow ken,
While a hidden Past re-echoes
With a life once known to men.

We but darkly see the Present,

For the seed from which it grew
Left a record in Time's valley
Where its blossom faded too.
Have we left far, far behind us
Footprints on another track?
Do the whispers as we listen
Briug again a dead life back?

Who can scan the Past or Future?

Is the Past dead evermore,
Or the Present a soul-seedling
Of half-conscious life before?
Why not? If the ages coming
Do not sweep our Now away,
They may focus all the soul-links
Of our life's vast yesterday.

Swiftly, freshly, days sped onward—life is strong at twenty-five,

And the sight of one brown maiden made his hope in life revive:

- Hope like April alternating, darkest clouds and brightest blue,
- Wind and hail-storm leaping, shouting, and the sunshine breaking through.
- How could he, a waif of nature, say to one pure maid "Be mine!"
- Yet are honour and devotion less than empty name or line?
- So his thoughts leaped! They had spoken once a few words—and surprise
- Flushed them both, but spoke a volume in the language of the eyes.
- With a matron grave and stately roamed she when the day was young,
- Roamed alone too, swam and clambered—made the schoolman find his tongue.

- Modest in his guise and aspect; man of many parts, but slow—
- Music, painting—speaking little, hiding more than most men know.
- Hugh he saw with admiration—half regret if truth be truth—
- Though a sage ten years his senior warmed he to the headstrong youth;
- Youth no longer, but with manhood strong in strength of limb and mind,
- Rushing, swaying, as a torrent that leaves deeper streams behind.
- So it seemed, for James Pengelly in his solitude apart,
- Lingered with his prosy learning coloured by the hues of Art:

- Painted miniatures of fancy; touched the organ hour by hour,
- Seeking and oft finding solace in the freedom of his power.
- She, the pole-star of two mortals, all unconscious, only knew
- One alone absorbed her thoughts, which ever echoed only "Hugh."
- Once he begged her thus to call him, but her lips withheld the sound,
- While her heart responded dumbly with a depth the more profound.
- On the glittering shore once to him waved she back a joyous hand,
- Radiant as the rosy morning, like a goddess of the strand.

No tint of words could paint the grace
Of form which marked her motion,
Nor give the hues upon her face
Which changed with each emotion.

The sunshine flashing on each crest
A thousand gems bestrewing,
Awaited Neptune's own behest
To deck her in his wooing.

As rise warm wavelets when the South Sends forth a breezy murmur, With fragrant kisses on its mouth, So seemed a breath to stir her.

The bright sand glistened at her feet,
And voiceful shells in glancing
Sent up a melody so sweet
It seemed their souls were dancing.

- He beheld her breast the billows with a joy akin to fear,
- When the swell was strong, and often as a watchdog lingered near:
- And the thought—a premonition—one morn quickened his quick tread,
- Of a stronger spring-tide rising, which created awesome dread:
- Like the wind lashed into tempest over crag and crag went he,
- Heard a cry for help far-reaching, "Hugh! Hugh!" coming from the sea.
- "My name! her voice! God Almighty, save her! Aid me, Mighty Will!"
- Was his prayer, and plunging headlong swam with superhuman skill:

- Fought the surges, climbed the billows, heard the cry, faint—near—and then
- Felt the godhead of his manhood answer with the strength of ten:
- Saw her just a moment—lost her! Felt the grim tug of despair
- Clutch his throat; but 'ere it tightened his hand caught her flowing hair:
- Saved! but no response came from her! Dead? and then the cruel sea,
- Like an angry tyrant baffled, howled the more ferociously.
- Life or death for one or both was then the combat to the land,
- But at last, all bruised, his triumph ended on the rock-ribbed strand.

- Anguish, doubt and wild distraction cut his heart as with a knife;
- Dead?—but ear and hand on tension found a pulse that whispered *life*.
- He was mother, brother, lover, as he warmed her to his breast,
- Kissed her cheeks, her lips, her forehead, as a child thus saved, caressed.
- Tenderly, his arms around her, up and up the dale he went;
- Ne'er had man a richer burden borne with such a sweet content.
- The dark fringes of her eyelids hid the depths encaverned there,
- And her cheeks looked wan as moonlight in a cloud of tangled hair.

Beauty in unconscious robing,

On a couch of dream-wrought bliss,

Locked in arms that soothe to slumber,

Sealed by love's magnetic kiss.

Beauty in the strength of weakness—
A full tide in deep, still mood;
As a virgin child of nature
In her untouched solitude,
Waking to a warm pulsation
As to life but newly born,
While the red tide gently flowing
Touched her lips—as rosy dawn
Peeping through Aurora's mantle—
Herald of a vestal day,
As a ripe bud slowly opening
To the sun's creative sway.

Beauty in unconscious robing,

On a couch of dream-wrought bliss,

Locked in arms that soothe to slumber,

Sealed by love's magnetic kiss.

- News had sped before him; rumour ever as a lying ghost,
- Said, with quick breath half-bewailing, both were dead upon the coast.
- All unheeding, seeing nothing, deaf and blind to all strode he,
- Reached the open door, and knew not—strength gave up its mastery:
- Nothing knew, till James Pengelly, sitting on his
- Argus-like, replied to questions, while his hand propped up Hugh's head.
- Both were heroes, now sworn brothers; for Hugh's deed had like a flood
- Broken all the other's hopes down, and left stronger ties than blood.

- James Pengelly swept his heart clean! "I once painted this," said he;
- "Take it, if you will—you saved her!—take it as a gift from me."
- Hugh was humbled: no elation stirred the lover in the man;
- Having saved he could not claim her, and his name was as a ban.
- But the miniature was precious as new sight unto the blind,
- And her aunt, the dame Trevanion, spoke words that seemed more than kind:
- Called she, "Ruth, Ruth! thank him! thank him!" But the maid gave both her hands,
- And her words were words of silence, spoken when love understands.

- When they walked his tongue lost freedom with the sun-nymph by his side;
- She was piqued, and thought her champion sometimes lost in gloomy pride.
- He thought: "As you bird that singeth in the azure light above,
- So is she beyond my reaching, though my soul be winged with love."
- Then a glance illumined his vision, and her words were as a smile;
- "Think you I or any woman could in silence walk a mile?"
- "Speak," he said, "and I will listen music-eared to catch the sound;"
- "Nay," responded she, "not music, only thoughts and not profound.

- "Only this—this stretch of moorland, like my native Devon's face,
- Made me wish that I might challenge you, big tyrant, to a race.
- "That's the goal—the quarry gateway!" On they went and clipt the air;
- Half the way she led, but somehow he a hand's length first was there.
- "Mine!" he said, "Cornwall wins Devon! In fair beauty they are one,
- Both are married to the sea as children of the western sun:
- "Differing as a bride and bridegroom, as bare rock and pine-clad knoll,
- Separate, but not divided; perfect as a living whole.

- "If—ah if!—it only could be I might claim love's rich bequest!"—
- Her eyes downcast, slow uplifted, looked in his and said the rest.
- "Mine!"—he spoke with face transfigured—
 "Now my heart sings merrily!"
- Coyly smiled she, "I hear nothing!" "Yet," he said, "it sings of thee."
 - Love is over all, though the shadows fall Dark and chill;
 - Love is as a star, shining where you are, Steadfast still.
 - Faith in love may dim—faith in her or him May befall;
 - But the darkest night yields to morning's light After all.

Time that now defies is a time that dies

With a breath;

Love is not a day, for it lives for aye,

Killing death.

So in you and me ever may it be
Pure and bright,
Keeping us as one till another sun
Brings new light.

Love is over all, though the shadows fall

Dark and chill;

Love is as a star, shining where you are,

Steadfast still.

Peace, like some deep-flowing river, sheltered by protecting hills,

Stilled the current of his life-stream with a calm that love distils.

- It unlocked the Past's closed doorway, whence he looked behind, before,
- With a gleam of intuition, and he wondered more and more.
- Love was his in breadth and fulness; in its depth and in its height;
- In the past, the present, future, beacon in the darkest night.
- To Trevena, when the wind blew midnight's anthem, then he came,
- Said with head bowed on her grave-stone, "Mother, I would take his name!"
- Breathed he, "Father, you forgive me!—I, not thou—let me atone;
- Bless me for I cursed thee; give me, not thy wealth, thy name alone."

- Then he wrote to one—the proctor—having all the threads that he
- Spurned and tangled by the folly of his youth's ferocity.
- Wrote: "Might I obey the mandate of my father's wish and will—
- Take his name and let all else run in the same succession still?"
- Said that he was soon expecting a betrothal tie with one,
- Gentle born—a Ruth Trevanion—with this legal business done.
- Came the answer like a summons: "Come without delay and bring
- Aught in writing of your mother's, and her old prized signet-ring.

- "Make no promise of a marriage; say naught—
 come and be not slow;
- You have waited ten years; haste now, there is much that you should know."
- Thus a cloud came 'twixt the lovers. "Say naught," said the Plymouth scribe;
- Hugh and Ruth spurned that prescription, and discussed the lawyer tribe.
- But the parting was a sorrow like a sunbeam dewed with tears;
- Not despair, but as a rainbow lighting hope and bridging fears.

Good-bye, dear love! heart of my heart, good-bye!

I know thee true, and 'tis from this I borrow;

Dark clouds may gather in our summer sky,

But brightness yet will come in life's to-morrow:

Here clasping hands and pressing lips we part,

With love-chords still unbroken—heart to heart!

Where first we met upon this rocky beach
We breathe farewell, the waves of hope prevailing.
For faith is strong and love hands still can reach
O'er leagues of ocean, and our thoughts swift sailing
Can baffle time and distance in their flight,
And bring to each love's music winged with light.

Good-bye, dear love! heart of my heart, good-bye!

The sea-waves yet will bring joy after sorrow;

Dark clouds may gather in our summer sky,

But I will come again in life's to-morrow:

Here clasping hands and pressing lips we part,

With love-chords still unbroken—heart to heart!

What Hugh heard and what he suffered—what he read on parchment scroll—
Was a human revelation of keen torture to his soul:

- Complex—love and grief entwisted! All his hopes like wreckage cast
- On the wide sea—drifting, drifting—sport of every shrieking blast.
- Then he wrote a letter to her, saying he was coming soon,
- Full of yearning, and yet wanting the full tide of love's deep tune;
- For he felt flung down and battered as a mast by lightning's stroke;
- Heard the weary lawyer reading—heard and looked, but seldom spoke:
- Looked away to some far harbour for a light to guide his bark;
- But the thick mists gathered round him and he wandered in the dark.

- Yet love spoke with strange and tender words, that moved him to fulfil
- Some half-shapen purpose, brooding as the sweet dove of his will.
- Wrote he then to James Pengelly, openly as man to friend—
- Tenderly, as man to brother, by a chord that has no end:
- Told him all! To hold his secret sacred, but to give her cheer,
- Soothing, guiding, with wise counsel till he came to make all clear.
- She who waited, trusted! Waited with a presage in the air;
- Hoped, with tearful eyes, and breathing anguish in her glance and prayer.

Waiting, she recalled his farewell; strange it sounded now, while then

All was promise as they parted—would they meet again, and when?

Like a stately monarch resting,

Lay the ship awaiting him;

And anon it lifted anchor,

While my straining eyes grew dim;

Slowly fading from my vision

Sailed the goodly barque away,

As I stood with hope on tiptoe

Watching from the silent bay:

Suddenly I heard a whisper—'twas a promise breathed to me

In the cadences of twilight coming from the placid sea.

* * * * * *

Roll ye billows, burst around me!

Once soft ripples made me glad;

Now I love the waking storm-blast,

Softer music makes me sad;

There's deceit I cannot fathom

In the summer skies of youth;

But when tempest fights with tempest

There's a voice that speaks the truth:

Someday I shall reach my haven after one fierce storm is past,

I shall hear a dear voice calling and shall find my love at last.

Wind and tide made friends together—drew their sullen furies forth—

Called the south, which joined the west, and made the east wind lash the north:

Wind and tide conspired together! Ships went down within that gale,

And no man was left to shudder as he told the awful tale.





Where a ship had foundered.

- On the shore stood Ruth Trevanion, like grim terror beautified!
- Watching, where a ship had foundered, lest some life could be descried:
- Waiting!—ah, if she could succour some poor seaman—then she saw,
- In the ravening swirl, a mortal sucked within the billows' maw:
- Mocked and buffeted! Now coming, now receding, tossed about,
- Human plaything for the surges as they beat his life-spark out.
- His last cry had lost its echo! cold his brow and stiff his hand,
- When with one fierce howl the billows hurled him on Trebarwith strand:

- Hugh Trebarwith?—" Hugh, my dearest!" quick as thought she did her part;
- Ah, too late! the pulse was silent as her hand pressed on his heart.
- But she found a fast-closed locket, with her portrait, and her hair
- Folded in a scrap of paper, and this message written there:
- "Love from Hugh; but not Trebarwith! Love to you, dear sister—mine!
- Hugh Trevanion!—call me brother! as Trevanion wholly thine!"

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"Yea, Pengelly, thou didst love him! I am rich in having thee,

Though we've lost him till to-morrow in the harvest of the sea."

Printed by Curtis & Beamish, Ltd., Coventry.

The following is a list of poems and miscellaneous lyrics by Mr. Edward Foskett, in chronological order of publication. The list is exclusive of contributions which have appeared in various magazines, etc., either with name, initials ("E. F."), and pseudonyms "Aaron" and "Kefttos."

Unveiled: a vision (published anonymously). 1875.

A Nation's Fame (Fugitive Slave Question), by the "Author of Unveiled: a vision." 1876.

God of Wine, with music by C. S. Jekyll. 1879.

Echoes of Fifty Years, with music by J. A. Birch. 1879.

The Atalanta, a poem. 1880.

A Hindoo Tragedy, a poem in four cantos. 1880.

The Trysting Well, with music by Berthold Tours. 1881.

Harold Glynde, a narrative poem interspersed with fourteen lyrics. 1881.

issued as a Cantata, with music by Sir John Stainer, Sir George Martin, C. S. Jekyll, J. A. Birch, and other composers. Various editions in old notation and tonic sol-fa.

The Coming Years, with music by John Cornwall. 1883.

The Spring of Life, with music by Marion La Thangue. 1884.

Intercolonial Ode, with music by Leonard Gautier. 1886.

The Fireman, arranged as a dramatic part-song with double chorus by John Cornwall. 1886.

Mother of Nations, with music by Leonard Gautier, 1887; new edition, with the prefix "Victoria," 1897.

Poems (miscellaneous collected), 306 pp. 1st edition, 1887; 2nd edition, 1888.

The Window in the Rock, a Cornish tale in verse. 1888.

The Bo'sun's Bride, with music by Leonard Gautier. 1889.

The Everlasting Arms, with music by Charles Nixon. 1889.

Our Noble Defenders, with music by Tito Mattei. 1889.

Links of Eden, with music by F. C. Bevan. 1892.

Hugh Trebarwith, a Cornish romance. 1900.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

- "The nautical dramas in rhyme are among the writer's most successful efforts. There is a true ring of pathos in the sorrow, and the terror is forcibly told. The subject of 'A Hindoo Tragedy,' the most important of Mr. Foskett's narrative poems, is dramatic, and its local colouring is especially faithful."—Monning Post.
- "Here we have a refreshing volume. We find unmistakable flashes of poetic fire and insight into men and things."—Standard.
- "He is a genuine singer, and in the whole book—by no means a small one—we have not come across a lyric which does not carry its tine in the heart of it, while in the construction of the sonnet he proves himself a master."—Daily Telegraph.
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